

### **Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the first paragraph on page 1 of the specification as follows:

The present invention is related to the following applications entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VALIDATING AND CONFIGURING DATABASE TRANSACTION REQUESTS FROM MULTIPLE CLIENTS", serial no. 10/756,932, attorney docket no. AUS920030927US1, filed on January 14, 2004, and "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR GENERATING QUERY AND RESPONSE STATEMENTS AT RUNTIME FROM GENERIC REQUESTS", serial no. \_\_\_\_\_, 10/803,658, attorney docket no. AUS920030928US1, filed on \_\_\_\_\_, March 18, 2004, assigned to the same assignee, and incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the only paragraph on page 5 of the specification as follows:

The present invention provides a method in a data processing system for generating return data responsive to a database request. A response from a data store is detected. A merge reference section in a singleton in-memory object is located. A merge reference of the merge reference section is identified. A reference column from the merge reference is determined and data is merged with the reference column to form a merged value according to an order. The merged value is then placed in the response. Additionally, [[A]] a method in a data processing system for executing a request on a data store is provided. A request is received that contains data. A split reference section in a singleton in-memory object is located. A split reference from the split reference section is identified. A reference column from the split reference is determined. A value from the data is extracted and placed in the reference column according to an order.

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 37 of the specification as follows:

A determination is then made as to whether there is an additional reference column to be split (step 1338). This may be determined by whether there [[is]] are additional reference elements in the same splitReference element. If there is an additional reference column, the server goes to the next reference column (step 1340), represented by another reference element, and the process repeats from step 1330. If there is no additional reference column, a determination is made as to whether there is an additional requested field represented by the splitReference element in the split reference section (step 1342).